he evacuated it, and to put it in condition to be used against Fort Sumter, should It become necessary.

He also ordered the immediate construction of batteries on Cumming's Point and Morris Island bearing on Sumter, and commanding the approaches to Sumter, so as to prevent reinforcements being thrown into the fort by the United States Government He also seized the arsenal in Charleston with all its contents.

These steps were most certainly acts of war ; and they were the first acts of war in Charleston Harbor. For, although the secessionists of South Carolina claimed that Major Anderson had begun the war by transferring his command from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter contrary to the understanding with the President, and also by dismantling Fort Moultrie, yet, considering that Anderson was lawfully in possession of all the forte, and believed that the State authorities were about " to proceed to a hostile act," his action in the premises cannot properly be held to be a beginning of hostilities. It was rather the act of a prudent officer who, recognizing the danger of his situation, undertakes only to render it more secure. But the forcible seizure of Castle Pinckney and Fort Moultrie and the erection of hostile batteries on the south shore of the harbor

by the authorities of South Carolina were undeniably hostile acts, and, in fact, were so regarded at the time by every one.

"We may perhaps pause a moment here, to remark that the peculiar methods pursued by South Caro-lina in her efforts to get possession by peaceful